
















North Carolina General Assembly Legislation with Potential Impact on the City of Asheville Budget - 2015 Regular Session - Updated 4/19/15					
Advocacy Principle: <i>Municipal Authority</i>		<i>Like all municipalities in North Carolina, Asheville has unique economic, environmental, and cultural interests. Maintaining municipal authority to promote, regulate, and celebrate these interests is essential to enable local officials to best address local needs.</i>			
Policy Issue	Bills	Monitor	Bill Notes	Legislative Agenda	Status
Eminent Domain	H3/ S74 Eminent Domain.		This act amends the Constitution to include prohibition of condemnation of private property except for a public use, to provide for the payment of just compensation with right of trial by jury in all condemnation cases, and to make similar statutory changes.		(House) 1/14/15 Filed; 1/28/15 Passed 1st Reading; 2/5/15 Passed 2nd Reading; 2/10/15 Passed 3rd Reading; (Senate) 2/12/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	S380 Local Accountability Act.				(Senate) 3/24/15 Filed; 3/25/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	H875 Restrict Municipal Eminent Domain.				(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Judiciary II
Stomwater Management to Private Property	H141 Stormwater/Flood Control Activities.				(House) 3/4/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Environment, if favorable, Local Government
MPO/ RPO Studies	S396 Limit Number of Studies/MPOs and RPOs.				(Senate) 3/24/15 Filed; 3/25/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/30/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref Com On Transportation
Bicycle Safety	H232 Study/Update Bicycle Safety Laws.		This bill directs the Department of Transportation to perform a study on the bicycle safety laws in North Carolina and provide recommendations as to how the laws may be revised to better ensure the safety of bicyclists and motorists on the roadways.		(House) 3/16/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/31/15 Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; 4/1/15 Regular Message Sent To Senate; (Senate) 4/1/15 Regular Message Received From House; Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
Regulation of Bee Hives	S225 The Birds and the Bees Act.		This bill clarifies the authority of local governments to adopt ordinances related to bee hives and requires the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to study strategies for protecting and supporting pollinators.		(Senate) 3/10/15 Filed; 3/11/2015 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/23/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref Com On Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources
	S617 Local Government Reg. Reform.				(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate

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Regulations of Fire Arms	S394 Preemption Affirmation Act.					(Senate) 3/24/15 Filed; 3/25/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
Municipal Campaigns	H621 Public Financing of Municipal Campaigns.					(House) 4/9/15 Filed; 4/13/15 Passed 1st Reading; 4/13/15 Ref to the Com on Elections, if favorable, Local Government, if favorable, Finance
Digital Dispatching Services	S414 Regulate Transportation Network Services.					(Senate) 3/24/15 Filed; 3/25/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/30/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to Commerce. If fav, re-ref to Insurance
	H680/ S541 Regulate Transportation Network Companies.					(House) 4/13/15 Filed; 4/13/15 House Filed; 4/14/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Commerce and Job Development, if favorable, Transportation, if favorable, Finance (Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 4/9/15 Withdrawn From Com; 4/9/15 Re-ref to Transportation. If fav, re-ref to Finance
Local Government Lobbyist	S644 Study Local Gov't Contract Lobbyists.					(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
Minimum Wage	H885 Let Local Gov'ts Set Local Minimum Wage.					(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/2015 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the
Drones	H4 Clarify Unmanned Aircraft System Law.		This law gives agencies and agents of the state or a political subdivision of the state the authority to use unmanned aircraft systems upon the approval of the state Chief Information Officer.			(House) 1/29/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Judiciary I; 4/16/15 Reptd Fav Com Substitute; 4/16/15 Re-ref Com On Indiciary IV
	S622 UAS/No LEO Surveillance of Private Property.					(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate

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Advocacy Principle: <i>Municipal Revenue</i>		<i>The fiscal health and responsibility of municipalities require stable revenue sources that are proportionate to the need for local services. Responsible fiscal management requires the protection of revenue sources both under, and outside of, municipal control.</i>			
Policy Issue	Bills	Monitor	Bill Notes	Legislative Agenda	Status
Sales Tax Redistribution	S369 Sales Tax Fairness Act.				(Senate) 3/23/15 Filed; 3/24/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/24/15 Ref To Com On Finance
	S608 Simple and Fair Formula for Sales Tax Distrib.				(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 4/9/15 Withdrawn From Com; 4/9/15 Senate Re-ref Com On Finance
	S18 County Sales Tax Flexibility.				(House) 4/1/15 Filed; 4/2/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Finance
Transportation Funding	S20/ H40 IRC Update/Motor Fuel Tax Changes		The bill will very quickly cut the state motor fuels tax by 2.5 cents per gallon, but subsequently create a new, higher floor for the tax which should provide stability for the transportation revenue stream going forward. Cities and towns maintain the majority of road miles within their borders, and roughly one quarter of the money spent for this purpose comes from state Powell Bill funds. If the gas tax remains unchanged, it is expected to fall by as much as 6 to 8 cents per gallon.		(Senate) 2/4/15 Passed 1st Reading; 2/11/15 Passed 2nd Reading; 2/12/15 Passed 3rd Reading; Engrossed; (House) 2/18/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/4/15 Passed 2nd Reading; 3/5/15 Passed 3rd Reading; 3/5/15 Engrossed; 3/31/15 Ratified; Pres. To Gov.; Signed by Gov.; Ch. SL 2015-2
	H203 Phase-out of Fuel Tax.		This bill replaces the motor fuels tax with a transportation usage fee.		(House) 3/10/15 Filed; 3/12/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Transportation, if favorable, Finance
	S639 Transportation Funding Bill.				(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
Local Debt	H128 Referendum for Certain Local Debt.		H128 would allow voters to force a referendum on debt secured by local issuances of certificates of participation (COPs) and other non-general obligation bond indebtedness. H128 would require a referendum on all borrowing for local government capital projects when 5 percent of that local government's voters sign a petition requesting a vote. In 1991, the North Carolina Supreme Court upheld local governments' use of certificates of participation and other "special indebtedness" that does not require a voter referendum. Since then, both local governments and the state have extensively used this form of borrowing, with the state having last put a bond referendum before voters in 2000. The General Assembly in 2013 placed limits on the state's use of state special indebttness going forward.		(House) 3/3/15 Filed; 3/4/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/4/15 Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Finance, if favorable, Elections
Tax Value for Property Improvements	H168/ S321 Exempt Builders' Inventory.		H168 would exclude from builders' property taxes any increase in property value attributable to subdivision or other improvements made to the property until the builder sold the property. H168 would limit the amount of time a builder could exclude the improved property value from taxation to five years.		(House) 3/5/15 Filed; 3/9/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/9/15 Ref To Com On Finance; (Senate) 3/17/15 Filed; 3/18/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/24/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to Commerce. If fav, re-ref to Finance

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Legal Notices	H156/ S129 Legal Notices/Require Internet Publication.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	This bill requires Internet Web site publication of legal notices. Legislators in both chambers filed companion electronic notice bills Wednesday that failed to allow municipalities the option to publish their own electronic legal public notices in lieu of publication in a newspaper. Instead of granting that authority to local governments, H156/ S129 Legal Notices/Require Internet Publication would continue a monopoly for the press regarding electronic notice while providing little or no financial relief for taxpayers. H156/S 129 would require newspapers to publish legal notices online at no additional charge, when a governmental entity had paid for the statutorily-required print notice.		(House) 3/4/15 Filed; 3/5/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Judiciary III; 3/30/15 Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; 3/31/15 Regular Message Sent To Senate (Senate) 3/31/15 Regular Message Received From House; Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On State and Local Government
	S210 Notice Publication by Counties and Cities.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	This bill provides the governing boards of counties and cities with an option to give public notices electronically.	✓	(Senate) 3/10/15 Filed; 3/11/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	S518 Broader Publication of Legal Notices.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>		✗	(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
PSAP Funding	H506 911 Fund Distribution.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			(House) 4/1/215 Filed; 4/2/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Finance; 4/16/15 Reptd Fav; Re-ref Com On Finance
	H730 County Provide 911 Dispatch Services.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Local Government
Business Registration Fee	H362 Cities/Business Registration.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			(House) 3/25/15 Filed; 3/26/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Finance
Local Options Sales Tax	H394/ S246 Increase Options for Local Option Sales Tax.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	This bill gives Robeson County the authority to use the proceeds of the Local Government Sales and Use Tax for Public Transportation for school construction instead of public transportation.		(House) 3/30/15 Filed; 3/31/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Finance; (Senate) 3/11/15 Filed; 3/12/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/23/2015 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref Com On Finance
	H903 County Tax Flexibility/Municipal Rev Opts.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			(House) 4/15/15 Filed; 4/16/15; Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Finance
Property Tax	S458 Religious Orgs: Clarify Prop. Tax Exemption.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			(Senate) 3/25/15 Filed; 3/26/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/30/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref Com On Finance
Nonprofits	S700 Limit Sales Tax Refund for Nonprofits.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	H430/ S422 County Omnibus Legislation.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			(House) 3/31/15 Filed; 4/1/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Environment, if favorable, Finance; 4/16/15 Reptd Fav Com Substitute; Re-ref Com On Finance (Senate) 3/25/15 Filed; 3/26/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the

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Privilege License Tax	H470 Harnett Municipal Privilege License Tax.					(House) 4/1/15 Filed; 4/2/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Finance
	H507 Durham Privilege License Tax.					(House) 4/1/15 Filed; 4/2/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Finance
	H739 Repeal Business License Fees.					(House) 4/14/15 Filed; Passed 1st Reading; 4/15/15 Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Finance
Local Government Employees Retirement System	H616 Local Governmental Employees' Retire. COLA.					(House) 4/9/15 Filed; 4/13/15Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Pensions and Retirement, if favorable, Appropriations
	H759 Retirement System COLAs.					(House) 4/14/15 Filed; Passed 1st Reading; 4/15/15 Ref to the Com on Pensions and Retirement, if favorable, Appropriations
Video Sweepstakes Regulation and Taxation.	H922 Video Sweepstakes Regulation and Taxation.		A county or city may impose an excise tax on each electronic sweepstakes establishment. An excise tax may be levied by the county or by the city but not by both the county and the city. A county or city may impose an annual excise tax at the rate of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) on each electronic sweepstakes establishment. A county or city may impose an annual excise tax at the rate of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) on each electronic sweepstakes device. At least three percent (3%) of the net revenues collected under this section must be distributed to the county sheriff's department or the municipal police department of the taxing jurisdiction. The remainder may be used for any public purpose.			(House) 4/16/15 Filed
Site Development Loans	H108 Site and Building Development Fund		This bill provides a fund to provide loans to local government units to develop sites and buildings.			(House) 2/27/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Commerce and Job Development, if favorable, Appropriations; 3/18/15 Reptd Fav Com Substitute; Re-ref Com On Appropriations; 4/13/15 Withdrawn From Com; Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b); Placed On Cal For 4/14/15; 4/14/15 Passed 2nd Reading; 4/15/15 Amend Adopted; Amend Failed; Passed 3rd Reading; Ordered Engrossed; 4/16/15 Regular Message Sent To Senate; (Senate) 4/16/15 Regular Message Received From House; Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate








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Advocacy Principle: <i>Mandates</i> Unfunded and burdensome legislative and regulatory mandates undermine the efficiency, effectiveness and success of municipal programs and services.					
Policy Issue	Bills	Monitor	Bill Notes	Legislative Agenda	Status
E-Verify	H318 Protect North Carolina Workers Act.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	This bill will increase the number of employers who are required to participate in the federal e-verify program; to undo the e-verify changes enacted in S.L. 2014-119; to repeal the e-verify exemption for temporary employees; to exclude farm workers from the definition of employee; to give the Department of Labor the authority to enforce e-verify requirements pertaining to county and city contractors and subcontractors; and to provide that certain consulate or embassy documents may not be used to determine a person’s identification or residence for governmental and law enforcement purposes.		(House) 3/19/15 Filed; 3/23/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Commerce and Job Development, if favorable, Judiciary IV; 4/15/15 Reptd Fav Com Substitute; Re-ref Com On Judiciary IV
Police Body/ Dashboard Cameras	H395 Body and Dashboard Cameras/Law Enforcement.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			(House) 3/30/15 Filed; 3/31/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Appropriations
	H713 Body & Dash Cam Recording/Public Access.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Judiciary I









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<div> <div>Advocacy Principle: <i>Economic Vitality</i></div> <div>An economically vital community enables Asheville to provide for opportunity, mobility, and a high quality of life for its residents.</div> </div>					
Policy Issue	Bills	Monitor	Bill Notes	Legislative Agenda	Status
Economic Development	H117 NC Competes Act.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	H117 NC Competes Act would double an existing cap on funding for the state's key jobs recruitment program, the Jobs Development Investment Grant program. It also would restore money for an infrastructure grant program.		(House) 2/24/15 Filed; 2/27/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/4/15 Passed 2nd Reading; 3/5/15 Passed 3rd Reading; Engrossed; (Senate) 3/9/15 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/23/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref Com On Finance
	S338 Economic Development/Tax Modifications.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			(Senate) 3/18/15 Filed; 3/19/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/25/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to Commerce. If fav, re-ref to Finance. If fav, re-ref to Appropriations/Base Budget
	H920 Omnibus Economic Development Improvements.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			(House) 4/16/15 Filed
Jobs Development Investment Grant	S326 Increase JDIG Program Funding.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			(Senate) 3/19/2015 Passed 1st Reading; 3/24/15 Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; Special Message Sent To House; (House) 3/24/15 Special Message Received From Senate; Passed 1st Reading; 3/25/15 Ref to the Com on Finance, if favorable, Appropriations
	S342 Econ. Dev./JDIG Extension.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	This bill will extend the authority of the Department of Commerce to award new grants under the Job Development Investment Grant Program.		(Senate) 3/19/15 Filed; 3/23/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/25/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to Appropriations/Base Budget. If fav, re-ref to Commerce
	H89 Omnibus Economic Development Improvements.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	This bill restores various tax credits and incentives for economic development.	✓	(House) 2/16/15 Passed 1st Reading; 2/16/15 Ref to the Com on Commerce and Job Development, if favorable, Finance, if favorable, Appropriations; 3/4/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to the Com on Finance, if favorable, Appropriations
	S526 Job Creation and Tax Relief Act of 2015.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to Finance. If fav, re-ref to Commerce

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Jobs Catalyst Fund	S340 Econ. Dev./Job Catalyst Fund.				(Senate) 3/19/15 Filed; 3/23/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	H89 Omnibus Economic Development Improvements.		This bill restores various tax credits and incentives for economic development.	✓	(House) 2/16/15 Passed 1st Reading; 2/16/15 Ref to the Com on Commerce and Job Development, if favorable, Finance, if favorable, Appropriations; 3/4/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to the Com on Finance, if favorable, Appropriations
Historic Preservation Tax Credits	H152/ S287 New Historic Preservation Tax Credit.		H152 would create an historic tax credit of 10 to 20 percent of expenses, depending on the size of the renovation project and where it occurred. In poorer, Tier 1 and Tier 2 counties and for projects under \$10 million, the higher percentage would apply. A previous state historic tax credit, worth up to 30 percent of a project's value, expired on Dec. 31.	✓	(House) 3/4/15 Filed; 3/5/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/25/15 Passed 2nd Reading; 3/26/15 Passed 3rd Reading; (Senate) 3/30/15 Regular Message Received From House; Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Ways & Means
	S202 Reenact Preservation Rehab Tax Credits.		This bill reenacts the Rehabilitation Tax Credits.		(Senate) 3/9/15 Filed; 3/10/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/18/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref Com On Finance
	H171/ S193 Modify Film Grant Fund.		H171/ S193 would put \$66 million toward the state's film incentive grants established last year in lieu of a film and TV production tax credit. That program has \$10 million currently appropriated to it.	✓	(House) 3/5/15 Filed; 3/9/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Finance; (Senate) 3/5/15 Filed; 3/9/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/9/15 Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/18/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to Commerce. If fav, re-ref to Appropriations/Base Budget







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Film Grant Fund	S204 Reenact Film Credit.		This bill reenacts the Film Tax Credit.			(Senate) 3/9/15 Filed; 3/10/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/18/2015 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref Com On Finance
	S472 Local Incentives for Historic Rehabilitation.					(Senate) 3/25/15 Filed; 3/26/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/30/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to State and Local Government. If fav, re-ref to Finance
State Budget	H940 2015 Governor's Budget.					(House) 4/16/15 Filed
Renewable Energy Credit	S329 Econ. Dev./Renewable Energy Credit.					(Senate) 3/18/15 Filed; 3/19/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
Land Tax Deferral	H418 Displaced Residential Land Tax Deferral.					(House) 3/31/15 Filed; 4/1/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Finance
Medical Cannabis	H78 Enact Medical Cannabis Act.					(House) 2/11/15 Filed; 2/16/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Judiciary I, if favorable, Health, if favorable, Regulatory Reform; 3/9/15 Serial Referral To Finance Added; Serial Referral To Appropriations Added; Serial Referral To Appropriations Added; 3/25/15 Reptd Unfav
	H317 Medical Marijuana for Terminally Ill Patients.					(House) 03/19/15 Filed; 3/23/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Judiciary I, if favorable, Health, if favorable, Regulatory Reform









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Tips/Wages for Service Workers	S710 Service Worker Tax Reduction Action.					(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
Brewery Limits	H278 Increase Small Brewery Limits.					(House) 3/18/15 Filed; 3/19/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Alcoholic Beverage Control
	H625 Brewery Law Revisions.					(House) 4/9/15 Filed; 4/14/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Alcoholic Beverage Control, if favorable, Finance; Serial Referral To Finance Stricken
Liquor Sales	S171/ H178 Spirituous Liquor Tastings/ABC Stores.		This bill allows spirituous liquor tastings at ABC Stores.			(Senate) 3/4/15 Filed; 3/5/15 Held As Filed; (House) 3/9/15 Filed; 3/10/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/10/15 Ref To Com On Alcoholic Beverage Control
	H107/ S24 Liquor Sales - Permitted Distilleries.		This bill provides distillery permit holders with the authority to sell spirituous liquor distilled on premises to visitors of the distillery for consumption off the premises and to expand the list of places at which free spirituous liquor tastings may be held.			(House) 2/24/15 Filed; 2/27/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Alcoholic Beverage Control, if favorable, Finance; (Senate) 2/3/15 Filed; 2/4/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate

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Advocacy Principle: <i>City Services</i>		<i>The City of Asheville, which provides high quality services to meet the dynamic needs of its residents, requires adequate authority and flexibility to finance, operate, and manage these services.</i>			
Policy Issue	Bills	Monitor	Bill Notes	Legislative Agenda	Status
Parking Meters	H43/ S8 Winston-Salem/Parking Meters.		This bill allows parking meters in Winston-Salem to be activated by coins, tokens, cash, credit cards, debit cards, or electronic means. The Asheville City Council requested similar state-wide authority through its Legislative Agenda.	✓	(House) 2/3/15 Filed; 2/5/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/10/15 Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; (Senate) 3/11/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	S52 Cities/Mean's For Activating Parking Meters.		This bill allows parking meters to be activated by coins, tokens, cash, credit cards, debit cards, or electronic means. The Asheville City Council requested this state-wide authority through its Legislative Agenda.	✓	(Senate) 2/11/15 Passed 1st Reading; 4/1/15 Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; (House) 4/6/15 Passed 1st Reading; 4/6/15 Ref To Com On Local Government
Utility Rates	H351 Clarify Utility Rates.				(House) 3/25/15 Filed; 3/26/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Public Utilities; 3/30/15 Serial Referral To Finance Added; 4/1/15 Reptd Fav Com Substitute; 4/1/15 House Re-ref Com On Finance
Water Services	S547 Interconnection of Public Water Systems.				(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 4/6/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to State and Local Government. If fav, re-ref to Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources
	H874 Cities/Availability Charge/Improved Property				(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Finance
Public Records	S553 Public Records/Access for NC Citizens Only.				(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	H499 Study/Public Records & Open Meetings.				(House) 4/1/15 Filed; 4/2/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

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Back Up PSAPs	H512 Amend/Clarify Back-Up PSAP Requirements.					(House) 4/1/15 Filed; 4/2/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Local Government
Body Cameras	H537 Protect Law Enforcement & Comm. Relationships.		This act would require law enforcement officers wear body-worn cameras during certain interactions with the public, would establish video retention guidelines, and creak a \$5 million dollar nonrecurring matching grant fund with a maximize allocation of \$100k.			(House) 4/1/15 Filed; 4/6/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Appropriations
	H395 Body and Dashboard Cameras/Law Enforcement.					(House) 3/30/15 Filed; 3/31/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Appropriations
	H713 Body & Dash Cam Recording/Public Access.					(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Judiciary I
	H811 Law Enforcement Body-Worn Camera/Study.					(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House
Consideration of Criminal Records for Public Employment	H605 Reduce Unfair Barriers to Public Employment.					(House) 4/9/15 Filed; 4/13/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Judiciary I, if favorable, State Personnel, if favorable, Commerce and Job Development
	H612 "Ban the Box".					(House) 4/9/15 Filed; 4/13/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Judiciary I, if favorable, State Personnel, if favorable, Commerce and Job Development
Provision of Services	H348/ S550 NC Religious Freedom Restoration Act.					(House) 3/24/15 Filed; 3/26/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Judiciary I; Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref Com On Judiciary IV; (Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate

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Advocacy Principle: <i>Community Standards</i>		<i>Asheville, the largest city in Western North Carolina, is nationally known for its natural beauty, rich architectural legacy, and entrepreneurial energy. In order to promote economic vitality in a manner that maintains the unique features that make our community a desirable place to live, work, and play, municipalities and local officials need to be enabled with the tools and authority to make local decisions.</i>			
Policy Issue	Bills	Monitor	Bill Notes	Legislative Agenda	Status
Planning and Zoning	S617 Local Government Reg. Reform.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	H548 Zoning/Modernize & Reorganize.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			(House) 4/2/15 Filed; Rules Suspended; Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Judiciary IV
	H721 Subdivision Ordinance/Land Develop. Changes.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Judiciary IV
Building Code and Inspections	H255/ S324 Building Code Reg. Reform.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			(House) 3/17/15 Filed; 3/18/2015 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Regulatory Reform; 3/31/15 Reptd Fav Com Substitute; 3/31/15 Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b); Added to Calendar; 4/1/15 Withdrawn From Cal; Re-ref Com On Finance; 4/14/15 Reptd Fav Com Sub; Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b); Added to Calendar; Amend Adopted; Amend Adopted; Amend Adopted; Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; Ordered Engrossed; 4/15/15 Regular Message Sent To Senate; (Senate) 4/15/15 Regular Message Received From House; Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	H530/ S442 Local Gov'ts/Inspect Bldgs & Structures.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			(House) 4/1/15 Filed; 4/2/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Regulatory Reform; 4/16/15 Reptd Fav; Re-ref Com On Regulatory Reform (Senate) 3/25/15 Filed; 3/26/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
Graffiti Penalties	H552 Graffiti Vandalism.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	Would make the act of graffiti vandalism a Class I felony if either of the following applies: 1) The cost to repair damage caused by the violation is in excess of \$1,000. 2) The person has 2 or more prior convictions. If a person is convicted of 5 or more violations in a single session of district court or in a single week of superior court, and at least 5 of the offenses occurred within a 60-day period, the court shall consolidate the offenses for judgment and the consolidated offenses shall be punishable as a Class I felony.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	(House) 4/2/15 Filed; 4/6/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Judiciary II, if favorable, Finance; 4/15/15 Serial Referral To Finance Stricken; Reptd Fav Com Substitute; Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b); Added to Calendar; Amend Adopted A1; Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; Ordered Engrossed; 4/16/15 Regular Message Sent To Senate; (Senate) 4/16/15 Regular Message Received From House; Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	H626 Amend Prop Damage Offenses.	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			(House) 4/9/15 Filed; 4/14/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Judiciary II

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Short Term Rentals	H379 Simplify OT Collection by Intermediaries.				(House) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Finance
	H781 Vacation Rental Act Changes.				(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Finance
Protest Petitions	S285 Zoning/Protest Petition Changes.		This bill will alter qualification requirements for zoning protest petitions.		(Senate) 3/12/15 Filed; 3/16/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	S300 Zoning Changes/Majority Rule.		This bill will restore majority rule to municipal zoning ordinance amendments by repeal of the qualified protest petition process.		(Senate) 3/17/15 Filed; 3/18/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
	H201 Zoning Changes/Citizen Input.		This bill amends the process by which the city councils receive citizen input in zoning ordinance amendments.		(House) 3/11/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/19/15 Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b); 3/24/15 Amend Failed; Passed 2nd Reading; 3/25/15 Amend Adopted; Passed 3rd Reading; Ordered Engrossed; (Senate) 3/26/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
Historic Presevation	H799 Zoning/Changes to Hist. Preserv. Procedures.				(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; House Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Judiciary II

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Regulatory Reform	H760 Regulatory Reform Act of 2015.					(House) 4/14/15 Filed; Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Environment, if favorable, Regulatory Reform; 4/16/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref Com On Regulatory Reform eform
	H836 Local Government Regulatory Reform.					(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Regulatory Reform
Bill Boards	H304/ S320 Revisions to Outdoor Advertising Laws.		An Act to Increase Permit Fees for Outdoor Advertising, to Establish a Reasonable Timeframe for Making Agency Decisions Regarding Permits and Appeals, to Clarify the Standards for Determining Just Compensation in State and Local Government Eminent Domain Actions that Cause the Removal of Lawfully Erected Outdoor Advertising, to Clarify Provisions of the Outdoor Advertising Control Act, and to Promote Uniformity of Regulation and Modernization of Outdoor Advertising.			(House) 3/18/15 Filed; 3/19/15 Passed 1st Reading; 3/19/15 Ref to the Com on Commerce and Job Development, if favorable, Finance; (Senate) 3/17/15 Filed; 3/18/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
Design and Aesthetic Controls	H36/ S25 Zoning/Design and Aesthetic Controls.		This legislation would prevent municipalities from imposing design and aesthetic controls on certain family dwellings, including exterior color, roof style, location of windows and doors, etc. Historic districts are exempted from this bill.			(House) 2/4/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Local Government; (Senate) 2/4/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
Municipal Elections	H402 Study Municipal Elections in Even Years.					(House) 3/31/15 Filed; 4/1/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Elections; 4/16/15 Reptd Fav; Cal Pursuant Rule 36(b); Added to Calendar; Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; Regular Message Sent
	S650 Elections Transparency.					(Senate) 3/26/15 Filed; 3/30/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate
Overgrown Vegetation Notice	H44/ S53 Cities/Overgrown Vegetation Notice.		This bill authorizes cities to provide annual notice to chronic violators of overgrown vegetation ordinances by regular mail and posting.			(Senate) 2/10/15; 2/11/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; Re-ref Com On Judiciary II; 3/10/15 Reptd Fav; 3/11/15 Passed 2nd Reading; Passed 3rd Reading; 3/12/15 Senate Regular Message Sent To House; (House) 3/12/15 Regular Message Received From Senate; 3/16/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Local Government, if favorable, Regulatory Reform

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Advocacy Principle: <i>Environmental Stewardship</i>		<i>As a community committed to sustainability and environmental stewardship, Asheville needs adequate regulatory authority in order to maximize its partnership in environmental protection with state and federal agencies. As a city with a proud mountain heritage and identified as a destination for ecotourism and “green” industry, the Blue Ridge mountain region’s natural beauty is recognized as a great benefit to the community. Environmental protection is essential to a high quality of life, cultural heritage, and economic development.</i>			
Policy Issue	Bills	Monitor	Bill Notes	Legislative Agenda	Status
Hydraulic Fracturing	H76/ S72 Disapprove MEC Oil and Gas Rules.	<div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> </div>	This bill disapproves a rule adopted by the Mining and Energy Commission providing for management of oil or gas exploration and development.		(House) 2/12/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Commerce and Job Development, if favorable, Regulatory Reform, if favorable, Environment, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House; (Senate) 2/11/15 Filed; 2/12/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate; 3/9/15 Withdrawn From Com; Re-ref to Commerce. If fav, re-ref to Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources
	H172 Fracking-Protecting the Public.	<div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> </div>	This bill requires the Environmental Management Commission, while working with the Mining and Energy Commission, to adopt rules establishing technical requirements and best management practices to minimize leaks and other unpermitted releases of air pollutants from activities and infrastructure associated with gas exploration, development, production, processing, and compression infrastructure.		(House) 3/9/15 Filed; 3/10/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref to the Com on Environment, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House
	H772Protect NC Citizens From Compulsory Pooling.	<div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> </div>			(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House
	H773 Fracking-Public Disclosure/Drilling Fluids.	<div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> </div>			(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House
	H787 Additional Rqmts. for Fracking Operations.	<div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> </div>			(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House
Coal Ash Management	H656 Amend Coal Ash Management Act of 2014.	<div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> </div>		<div> <div></div> </div>	(House) 4/13/15 Filed; 4/14/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House
	H732 No Recovery for Coal Ash Costs.	<div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> </div>		<div> <div></div> </div>	(House) 4/14/15 Filed; 4/15/15 Passed 1st Reading; Ref To Com On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House
<div> <div></div> = Consistent with City of Asheville Interests <div></div> = Monitor <div></div> = Potentially Inconsistent with City of Asheville Interests </div>			<div> <div></div> = Consistent with the Asheville City Council's Legislative Agenda <div></div> = Inconsistent with the Asheville City Council's Legislative Agenda </div>		